



In some of the public buildings of Chicago—the theatres, the halls, the office buildings, hotels, and depots—one finds evidence to-day of something which, for want of a better definition, may be called an historic art exposition. You can see it in several office buildings in the down-town portions, where, over elevator entrances and lobby exits, are sculptured heads and bas-reliefs of Marquette and Joliet, of De Soto, La Salle, and Tonti. You can see it in the theatres, where by paintings and reliefs are illustrated those magnificent incidents of early exploration—the lone Marquette sailing down the Mississippi, the indomitable La Salle guiding his hardy company over the ice and snow of the prairie south of Chicago to the open waters of the Illinois. All the early incidents, from the building of the Fort of the Broken Heart, at the extremity of what is now Peoria Lake, to the erection and massacre of Fort Dearborn, at the entrance of the Chicago River, are here illustrated in one form or another. The parks contain monuments, the public institutions paintings, the walls of several theatres reliefs of the most delicate modeling, detailing in a feeling way the story of

these early adventures, which will yet form the basis for a world of American romance.

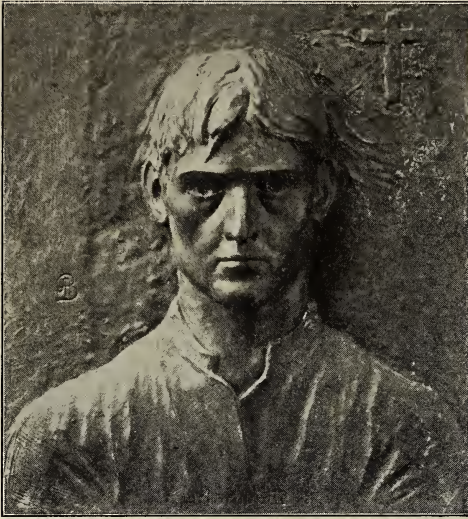
The early story of the State is involved with that of Ohio and Indiana, of which it was successively a part. All of these date their beginning from the arrival of the French missionaries and traders. In the adventures, the explorations, and the battles with the Indians, which form so large a portion of the early account, all shared alike. In a special sense only can Illinois claim that which actually occurred on her soil.

"Who are you?" called out Marquette in Algonquin dialect to the Indians whom he discovered at the mouth of the Des Moines River.

"We are Illini,"\* replied one of their chiefs, and because of the sweetness and tenderness of this earliest of Western missionaries a pleasant interview followed, at which fish, hominy, and buffalo meat were served and eaten. This was June 24, 1673.

On the long journey back, after going nearly to the Gulf of Mexico, Marquette and Joliet, with their five service men, entered the Illinois River, rowing upward to

\* "We are *men*." The Algonquins thus proudly distinguished themselves from the Iroquois, whom they regarded as beasts on account of their cruelty. From this time the Indians of this district became known among the French as Illinese or Illinoi, whence the State name.



Père Jacques Marquette.

Born at Laon, France, 1637. Together with Joliet discovered the upper Mississippi, June 17, 1673.

its source until the present sites of Kaskaskia and Utica were reached. There they found that there was no way back to the great Michigan which the Indians knew, except by foot, and so, guided by red men who volunteered to accompany them, they were led to the Chicagou\* portage. Here was a broad waste of grass and prairie flowers, channelled by two lazy streams that met from opposite directions, and flowed united into the lake. This was Chicago as nature made it, and as these men, who were its first discoverers, saw it. Here it was that the Indians and Frenchmen parted company, and in their frail canoes the latter skirted the western shore of Lake Michigan on the long northward journey to Canada. Such was the discovery of Illinois.

On the banks of this same Chicagou River was built only a few months later the lonely cabin which was to shelter a dying priest. It was unquestionably the first house in the new territory, and the one home of the noble Marquette in what was later to be Illinois. He came to it because, sincerely loving the Indians, he wanted to get back to them, and, having

\* The old spelling of Chicago. It is believed to be an Indian word meaning *onion, garlic, leek, or skunk*. Skunk weed is the Indian name for the onion, which used to grow abundantly on the banks of the Chicago River.

come so far, was taken ill. This wretched shelter was built on the South Branch, and here, through months of rain and snow and open winds from the lake, a dreary winter was spent. Joliet had already returned to Canada, falling in on his way with Robert de la Salle, who was afterwards to carry on the exploration of the Mississippi. Bands of roving Indians visited Marquette to bring him food, and several companions staying by him saw that he did not die of neglect. He kept a journal, and from it we learn that soon a trader came and established a post there, and that this trader sometimes brought such food to the missionary as the open prairie provided. The short visit to his beloved at Kaskaskia, his last desire to reach Canada before he died, the long march in return, and the death and burial at Sleeping Bear, on Lake Michigan, May 18, 1675—these things are historic.

The work of Marquette was taken up by La Salle. It was at the Fort of the Broken Heart, near Peoria, that some of the incidents most dramatic in the life of La Salle were enacted. Here had come, through what hardships Heaven only knows, he and his band, prepared, as he thought, to build a vessel which would carry him and his down the Mississippi, and allow for material being taken along which would aid in the building



Sieur Louis Joliet.

Born in Quebec, 1645.





Departure of Marquette and Joliet

On their first voyage to the country which is now Illinois.

of a village. Forges, ship carpenter's tools, and iron work he had brought here, and men, thirty-four of them; and here, when the keel was already laid, came desertion. Partly from want of pay, partly through a disposition to cut loose from restraint, his men interfered with him, and now he had to tramp all the way back to Canada for other men and other supplies. Through streams and forests and open stretches of tenantless country this man, with his five faithful companions, began that march which ought to be famous in history. Winter still hung over the country; the small streams were not yet released from its icy grasp, and when the travellers had reached the upper tributaries of the Illinois, the canoes by which they came had to be abandoned. With shoulders laden, but hearts untrammelled, they marched back, not in retreat, but to get more supplies—to return.

And when, after making all that unrivalled effort, and gaining new supplies and new

energy, they returned, it was only to witness what treason and battle and desertion could do. Ashes and desolation, with wolves quarrelling over the spoils of battle, and men departed without a trace of their whereabouts! It is Father Hennepin who has left us the information that from the fact that the many difficulties under which they labored almost broke their hearts springs the peculiar name of the fort.

Yet from here La Salle finally set forth, and it was to this place that he returned after he had been to the mouth of the Mississippi at the Gulf, and had named all the vast southern territory Louisiana in honor of Louis XIV., the king of France. It was the lone trader at the Chicagou portage who saw him go, and the same who saw him eventually return triumphant.

France, however, was not to retain it. When the colonies grew, the boundary question between England and France in America became all important, and eventually re-



"We are Illini."





The Death of Marquette.

sulted in what was subsequently known as the French and Indian war. Lawrence, Augustine, and George Washington, as members of the original Ohio Company, which attempted to build a fort at Pittsburg to protect the grant of territory now included in what is Ohio, but then claimed by the French, were at the bottom of this. Naturally France objected. Soon all the Indian tribes of Canada and the lakes were involved, and the whole of Europe was also up in arms. In the far west, however, which was then Illinois, only the mildest form of hostility developed; and with Wolfe's victory for the English on the Heights of Abraham, September 13, 1759, all the territory east of the Mississippi fell into English hands.

At Kaskaskia, the old seat of empire in this region for fully one hundred and fifty years, still another event of dramatic significance occurred. This was in connection with the final introduction of American rule. When the Revolutionary War broke out, the English seized Detroit, and from that point commanded not only Ohio and Michigan, but all the western territory. Kaskaskia was then a village of one thousand

inhabitants, ruled by a Frenchman, Rocheblanc, who, however, was loyal to British interests, and protected by Fort Gage, into which the English shortly intended to throw a garrison. By a strategy suggested by himself, Colonel George Rogers Clark, a true patriot and an ardent lover of independence, succeeded in diverting attention from his movement, and making his way down the Ohio to a point some distance below Louisville, where he struck out through the wilderness and appeared suddenly in the streets of Kaskaskia. It was the evening of the fourth of July, 1778. No British soldiers were present, but a small company of French did garrison duty at the

fort. So completely were they taken by surprise, however, that the victory was won before resistance was thought of. The governor, Rocheblanc, and a few leading citizens were seized and put in irons. Every inhabitant was ordered to remain in his house. Meanwhile the conquerors made night hideous by their tumult in order to terrify and prevent retaliation.

Being but a mere handful, and fearing eventual opposition and reprisal, Clark now shut himself in the fort, and had se-



Sieur de La Salle.

Born in Rouen, France, 1643. Completed the explorations of Marquette. Took possession of the whole of the Mississippi Valley in the name of France.

cret reports issued, detailing the terrible things he intended to do. The inhabitants were to be deported and sent in different directions. Families were to be unmercifully divided. When M. Gibault, the aged pastor, and a few of his aged flock came to beg permission to have a last final assemblage in the village chapel, the doughty colonel grumbled a fierce assent. When this was over, the aged curé again appeared, supplicating that each might be allowed to carry away a few provisions with them.

"The wilderness is so wide," he said.

"What for?" exclaimed the colonel, in assumed amazement.

"We are to be driven away from our homes."

"Nonsense," he shouted. "Do you take us for savages?"

The hitherto impenetrable immobility and harsh exterior now blossomed to the natives as something tender and charitable. All the ill reports only served to throw into brighter relief this wonderful generosity. Not only were the Americans blessed and extolled—their rule was counted exceedingly beneficent. Instead of opposition and mutiny, coöperation and assistance were effected, and in a short time the same Frenchmen were marching joyously along under him toward the capture of Vincennes.

When the American Revolution closed, the destiny of the territory, part of which is now Illinois, was settled by placing it under the flag of the United States at the treaty of Paris, signed September 3, 1783, and ratified by Congress at Philadelphia, January 14, 1784.

At Fort Dearborn, which had been built

in 1803-4, was enacted the last of that which was remarkable before the rule of the State began. This was the massacre of its garrisons during the war which broke out between England and the United States in 1812. General Hull, who had been sent to hold Detroit, at once attempted to notify his outpost at Fort Dearborn, in order that they might save themselves by marching to Fort Wayne. All the savages were up in arms. The only runner who could reach them was Winnemac, a friendly Pottawottomie chief. Faithful

to his trust, he arrived at Fort Dearborn on the 9th of August, 1812, and handed his dispatch to Captain Heald. This was to evacuate if he was not sufficiently powerful to maintain it.

Under the impression that he was not, Heald and his garrison, numbering sixty-six men, set forth on the 15th of August. They had not gone farther than what is now Eighteenth Street in Chicago, however, before they were attacked by five times their number of Pottawottomies, and half of their number slain. The remainder were taken



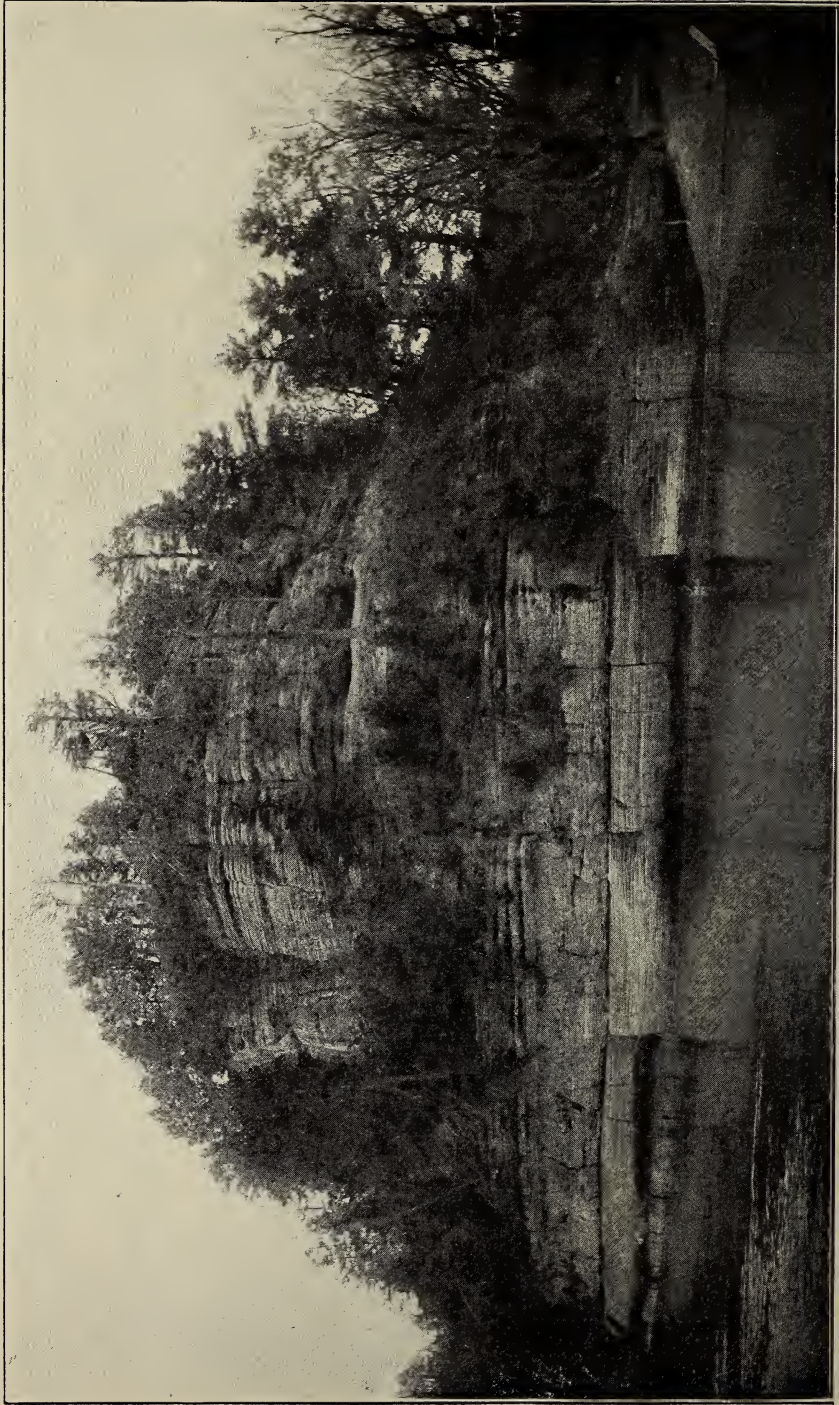
Sieur Henry de Tonti.

An Italian officer. Chief lieutenant of La Salle, and defender of the "Fort of the Broken Heart," on the Illinois in 1680.

prisoners, and after enduring months of hardships, were eventually exchanged. A monument in West Eighteenth Street, Chicago, which was erected by the late George M. Pullman, marks the place of the massacre.

The history of the State, however, as we understand, is not exactly of these things. Out of stress and strife and great adventure Illinois arose, until finally it got to the place where it was a part of Ohio Territory, and then Indiana Territory, and finally it was Illinois Territory, with all Wisconsin belonging to it, and not enough people through-





*Photo by Lockett.*

**Starved Rock, near Utica, Illinois.**

It was on the summit of this rock that Fort St. Louis was built by La Salle in 1682. Here the last of the Illinois tribe of Indians were besieged by the Algonquins, and rather than surrender starved. The heroic event has given the rock its name.





Wolf's Point, Chicago, in 1832.—A trading post conducted by a pioneer named Wolf, located at the fork of the North and the South Branch of the river, above the site of Fort Dearborn.

out the whole area to make up a fair-sized county. And the following was the manner in which it came to be a State:

Up to 1809, the present State, then but a county in Indiana, had been receiving its due share of the Western tide of immigration. Nearly all of those who came settled in what is now the southern half of the State, Alton being quite the northernmost limit of white settlement. It is true there was a fort and trading post at Chicago, but no population other than the half hundred soldiers and traders. Below Alton, in what are now Randolph, Monroe, St. Clair, and Madison counties, quite a number of people had settled. There were villages of a half hundred and more at Cairo, Quincy, and the like, for settlers needed to be upon some avenue of communication, and these the Ohio and Mississippi afforded. When the population grew to be upwards of thirty-five thousand, the local representatives, Messrs. William Biggs and John Messenger, then sitting in the Indiana legislature, which met at Vincennes, decided that it would be a good thing for them if they could obtain a division, and have Illinois erected into a territory. Locally the thing was satisfactory enough, and the idea of having a territorial legislature meeting at Kaskaskia was

rather pleasing. So the thing was talked about, and finally made into a semi-public matter, and the Government appealed to for a division.

Whether Indiana Territory could be thus divided or not depended upon the election of a delegate to Congress. The Illinoisians were anxious to elect one favorable to a division. The Indianians were indifferent. When it came to a choice, one Jesse B. Thomas, a member in the legislature from an Indiana county, was selected, but only after he had given actual bond to be in favor of the division. With the aid of the Illinois vote in the legislature and his own, Mr. Thomas was elected, and, true to his pledges, he secured a division. He did even more than this, for he had himself appointed to one of the supreme judgeships of the newly created territory, and, coming home with the appointment in his pocket, removed to Illinois and very comfortably entered upon his duties.

It was not long after this until the politicians, who became rather more numerous with the growth of the State, began to agitate the question of Statehood, and having by 1818 the customary forty-five thousand population which was considered sufficient, it could hardly be prevented,



View of Chicago in 1821, showing Fort Dearborn, built 1803-4.

Nathaniel Pope was Congressional delegate from the Territory of Illinois at this time, and it was to him that the territorial legislature gave instructions, asking that he petition Congress for the enactment of a law under which the territory could form a State government. Naturally he acquiesced, but the conditions under which he did so were peculiar.

By the Ordinance of 1787, fixing the limits of three States to be formed out of the Northwest Territory, it was provided that Congress should have power to form one or more States from the territory set apart for the Western State (which was what is now Illinois and Wisconsin) out of land lying "north of an east and west line, drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan." This would have given Wisconsin the city of Chicago.

But Pope, when the ordinance which had been drawn in accordance with the above came up in Congress, moved to amend by changing the northern boundary line to the north latitude of  $42^{\circ} 30'$ , where it is now.

"It is," said he, "for the best preservation of the Union."

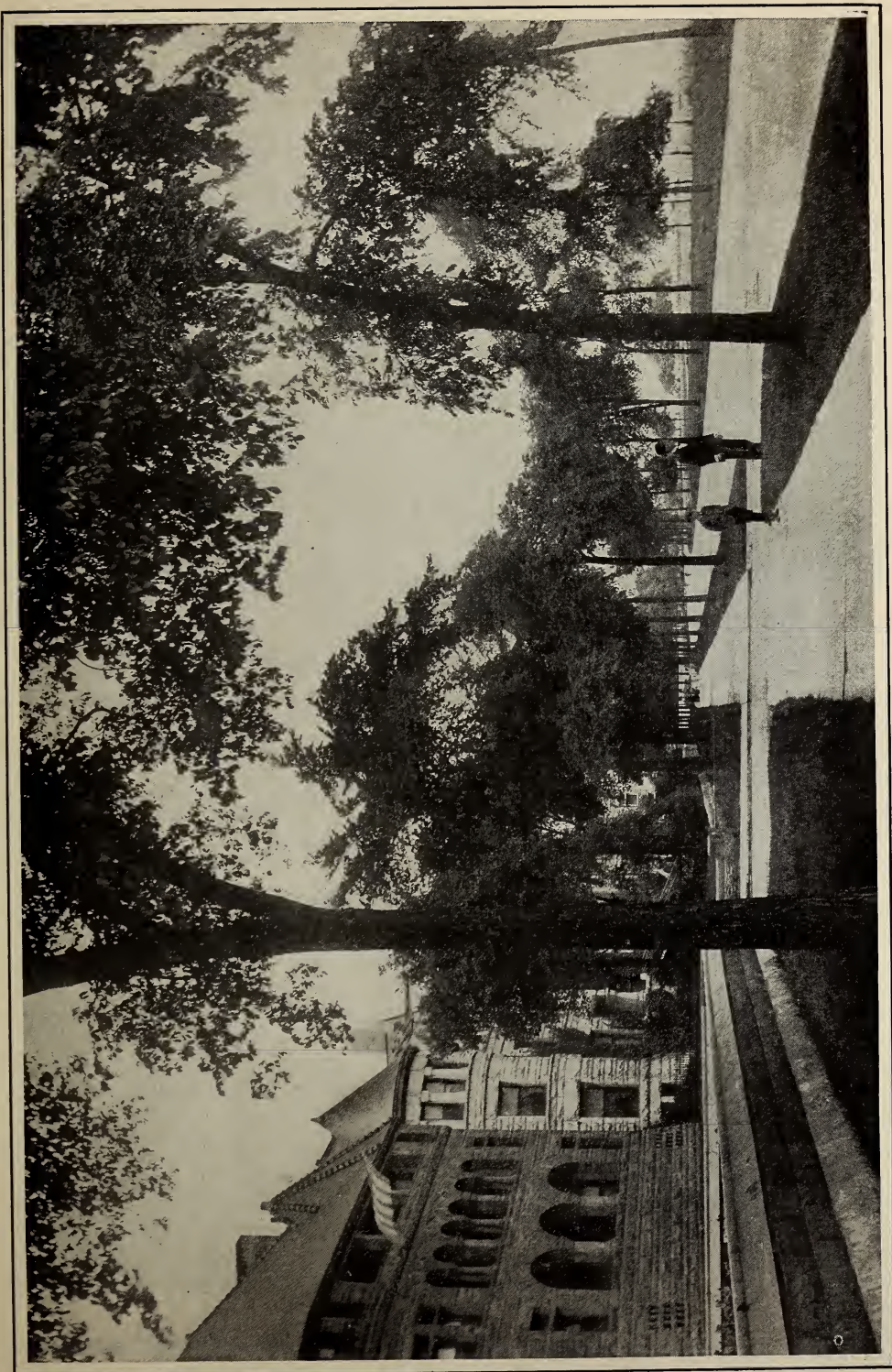
With rather remarkable foresight, he pointed out that the State, by reason of its geographical situation more than the fer-

tility of its soil, was destined to become, at no distant day, both populous and influential. If the northern boundary line were arbitrarily fixed, rather than naturally determined, and the State's commerce confined to the Mississippi and that river's southern tributary, its commercial relations with the South would become so close, that in the event, at some future day, of an attempt at the dismemberment of the Union, Illinois would cast its lot with the Southern States. If the northern boundary was so fixed, he thought, that the State could have jurisdiction over the southwestern shore of Lake Michigan, it would naturally be united with Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, and the cords of commercial interest would bind it forever to the interest of perpetual union.

Persuaded by this argument, the amendment, as suggested, was adopted, and Illinois received a strip of land fifty-one miles in width, which has been very vital in our national life. Illinois strength to oppose slavery was generated there. The Republican party owes almost its national life to the men of this section who voted for Trumbull, and afterwards Lincoln, and elected them.

In accordance with the privilege which this ordinance conferred, a legislature was





The North Shore Drive, Chicago, in 1901.





Chicago.

A powerful chief of the Illinois, who visited France in 1725.

called to meet at Kaskaskia, which, having organized the State government and put it in motion, adjourned to meet again in the winter of 1818-19. At this second session the members, being mostly ignorant and unpretending men, enacted the laws of Kentucky and Virginia almost verbatim, as the code for Illinois. A governor, one Shadrack Bond, was put in office, but for a long time there was little or no order in State affairs. It is said that for every session until the first general revision of 1827 all the standard laws were regularly changed. Tastes and whims were constantly consulted. The rage for amending and altering finally became so great that Governor Ford cynically declared that it was a good thing the Holy Scriptures did not have to come before the legislature.

"They'd show the Lord," was his curt conclusion.

Another politician summed it up in a statement in which he said that a session of the legislature was like a great fire in the boundless prairies of the State, in that it consumed everything. Again, it was like the genial breath of spring, making all things new,

One of the most humorous things in connection with this first session was the removal of the State capital from Kaskaskia in 1820, and the manner in which the new capital came to receive its peculiar name. The legislature appointed commissioners to select a new site, and the latter, having made choice of a place then in the midst of a wilderness, they consulted with one another as to what would be a suitable name. An outrageous wag arose among them, it is said, and earnestly suggested that since one of the most famous tribes of Indians in Illinois had been known as the Vandals, he would advise that the new capital be named Vandalia. It would perpetuate an interesting and historic name, and would serve to give the future generation of the State a key to the character and sympathies of the fathers.

This so thoroughly pleased the unlearned commissioners, that the scandalous old desecrators of Rome received a new lease of memory here.

"It would better illustrate," said old Governor Ford afterward, "the modern rather than the ancient inhabitants of the country."



Black Hawk.

In 1805 joined the British, claiming that his people had been cheated by the U. S. Government. His fight to redress his grievances cost the lives of 200 citizens and 500 Indians, and \$2,000,000.





Lincoln's old mill, near Salem.



*Photo by McCullough.*

Lincoln's old home at Salem.

Bowling Green's log cabin is now used as a stable.

From the very inception the people of Illinois were progressive, as, perhaps, this unrest might indicate. Things were in a very crude shape, however. The law-makers were, as a rule, only newly arrived in the country, and were elected because of their supposed superiority in the matter of learning. Thus one of the first three associate justices of the State Supreme Court was a total stranger, a William P. Foster by name, who had come to the State only three weeks before. This man was no lawyer, never having either studied or practised law, but he had winning and polished manners, and managed to ingratiate himself. When assigned to hold court on the Wa-

bash Circuit, he never went near it, but hid his incompetency by strutting about and pleading other duties as long as he could. Finally, when it became absolutely necessary for him to do something, he pocketed his salary and fled the State, leaving a trail of indebtedness in his wake.

Others of the early leaders stayed only so long as there was any chance of re-

ceiving rapid political preferment, and on finding that impossible moved away. The majority of them held offices in a dozen new States in the course of their lives, and naturally administered the affairs of all with a single eye to their own profit.

The people, though, were unusually am-



Lincoln's house at Springfield, where he resided during the last twenty years of his life.



bitious, and possessed an almost unreasoning desire for progress. This led to a number of serious social complications later. From the very beginning they had taken up an idea, newly broached by Albert Gallatin, a local financier, Alexander M. Jenkins, and others, of having a canal dug from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi. This canal, which was eventually constructed, and was more recently made the basis of the vast drainage system from the Lake, through the Chicago River, into the Illinois, is still the shadow of the very much larger thing which it was meant to be. Ships from the Lake to the Gulf was the earliest Illinoisian idea, and ships from the Lake to the Gulf is the cry of this latter generation. It is the conception of kinds and sizes of ships only that has changed.

The early population of the State which made this distinctive plea for an almost national highway of water was a peculiar people. Fully one-half were descendants of old French settlers, those who had founded Prairie du Rocher and Prairie du Pont, Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Peoria. These people had fields in common for farming, and farmed, built houses, and lived in the style of the peasantry of old France a hundred and fifty years ago. Many of them had intermarried with the native Indians, and there was a strain of that in their blood. They hunted, fished, raked the prairie for furs and wild fowl, and made long journeys for trading. Nearly all of them wore the Madras cotton handkerchief for a head-dress, the cape or blanket garment for a covering.

As for the American population, they were chiefly from Kentucky, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Trained to a pioneer life, they farmed ardently; raised cotton, wool, and flax for their own clothing; spun, wove, and dyed their own stuffs; and did, in short, everything that was common to the labors of the pioneer,



St. Gaudens' statue of Abraham Lincoln, at the entrance of Lincoln Park, Chicago.

The south part of the State was originally settled by the poorer class of people from the slave States. It is from this fact, it is supposed, that Illinois came to be called the "Sucker State." These immigrants were people who were not rich enough to own slaves, and who came to Illinois to get away from the imperious domination of their wealthy neighbors. Coming from tobacco-growing countries, they were compared to the useless suckers of the plant, which are stripped off and thrown away. Another origin of the term is, however, given.

The discovery of lead about the Galena district drew to that territory, in the years 1826 and 1827, hundreds and thousands of persons from Illinois and Missouri, who came to work the mines. It was estimated that the number of miners in this section in 1827 was six or seven thousand. The Illinoisians ran up the Mississippi River in the steamboats in the spring season, worked the

lead mines during the warm weather, and then ran down the river again to their homes in the fall season. There was thus established, it was supposed, a similitude between the migratory habits of these people and those of the watery tribe called suckers. It was given to them at the Galena mines by the Missourians.

During the first ten years of their Statehood, the people were confronted with questions considerably more practical than that of the great canal, and one of these was the slave trade.

It seems that in enacting the laws of Virginia and Kentucky as the State laws of Illinois, all the slave restrictions of those States had been included almost without reading. Nobody knew anything about the matter, and, indeed, there was quite a strong

opposition in a large portion of the growing population to anything looking toward slave ownership. Still the statutes so stood, and when various incidents were construed upon this law to mean that slavery was permissible, a great disturbance followed. People talked and debated, and it was decided by those who favored slavery that a convention would have to be called to reorganize the State constitution so as to make slavery permanent.

One of the things which helped to form opinion on this mat-

ter was the tide of immigrants now pouring into Missouri through Illinois from Virginia and Kentucky. In the fall of the year every great road was crowded and full of them, all bound to Missouri, with their money and long trains of teams and negroes. These were the



U. S. Grant.

From a photograph taken at his home in Galena.



Photo by H. E. Hennings.

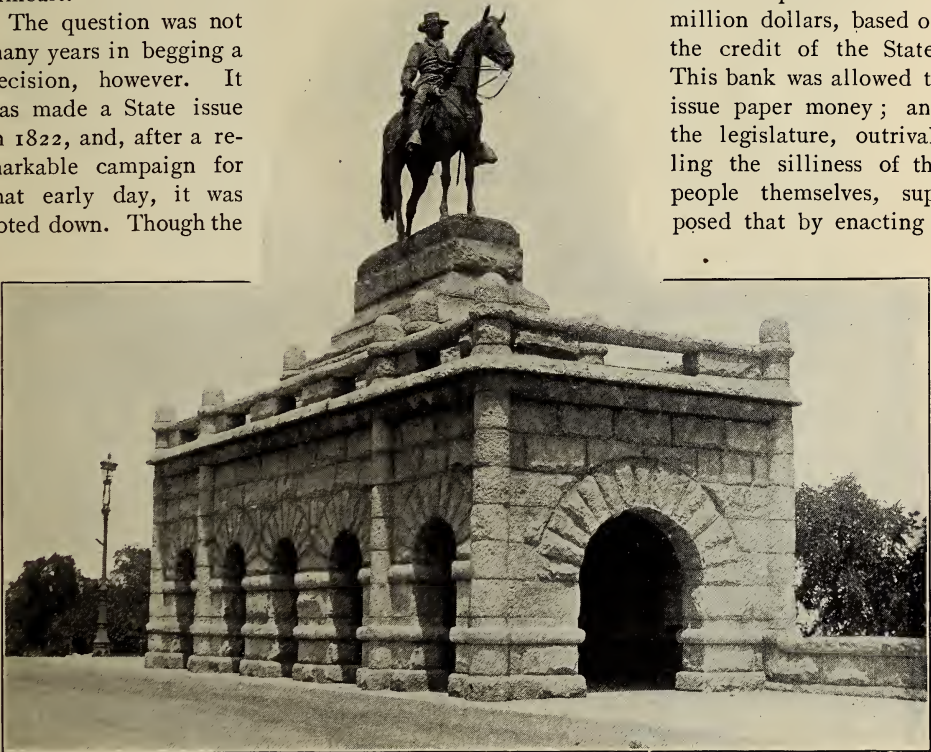
The house at Galena that Grant lived in, in 1860.



wealthy and best educated immigrants from the slave States. Many of the people who had land and farms to sell looked upon the good fortune of Missouri with envy. The lordly immigrant, as he passed along, maliciously rejoiced to increase it, and pretended to regret the short-sighted policy of Illinois, which excluded him because of his slaves from settlement amongst them. This stirred the one great flame of opposition to freedom for the negro, and made the fight against revision difficult.

The question was not many years in begging a decision, however. It was made a State issue in 1822, and, after a remarkable campaign for that early day, it was voted down. Though the

There being little gold or silver in the State, and that only in the shape of worn coins of other nations, the people dreamed of creating their own money. Illinois was a State. Why should not the world look upon it as good security? Legislators, the first ever assembled in the State, openly asserted that Illinois could create all the money it wanted. At the second session, which assembled at Vandalia, the new capital, in 1820, the Illinois State bank was created, with a capital of a half million dollars, based on the credit of the State. This bank was allowed to issue paper money; and the legislature, outrivalling the silliness of the people themselves, supposed that by enacting a



Statue of Grant in Lincoln Park, Chicago. Erected at a cost of \$45,000.

slave men were temporarily defeated, they still had the written law as borrowed from Virginia in their favor, and naturally this left the question open for a very bitter contest later.

The other difficulty that went hand-in-hand with this concerned money, or rather the lack of it. Every one wanted to see the State grow and flourish, and there was a genuine rush to build houses and lay out towns in anticipation of the approaching immigrant.

law they could compel not only the people of the State, but the government of the United States, to accept this issue at its face value. Of course the government could not do this, but that did not hinder the legislature from so ordering, at any rate.

One of the best anecdotes illustrating the whole matter was told of Colonel Menard, a Frenchman by birth, the first lieutenant-governor, and president of the State Senate, who, when the question came up as to



Confederate Prisoners at Fort Douglas, Chicago, 1864.

whether the scrip of the bank should be made legal tender and received at the land office, a Federal institution, or not, did up the whole business as follows:

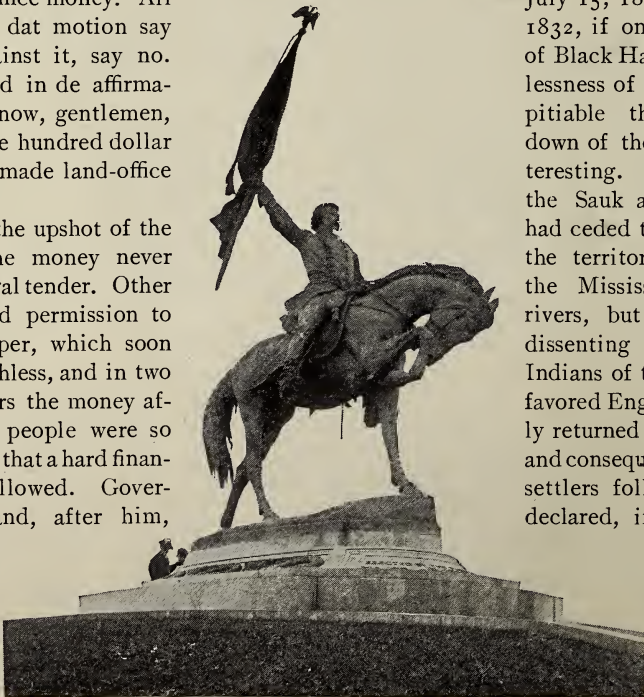
"Gentlemen of de Senate. It is moved and seconded dat de notes of dis bank be made land-office money. All in favor of dat motion say aye; all against it, say no. It is decided in de affirmative. And now, gentlemen, I bet you one hundred dollar he never be made land-office money."

That was the upshot of the matter. The money never was made legal tender. Other banks gained permission to circulate paper, which soon became worthless, and in two or three years the money affairs of the people were so complicated that a hard financial crash followed. Governor Cole, and, after him, Governor Edwards, did what they could to obtain sane and conserva-

tive legislation, which was finally enforced by the logic of trade itself.

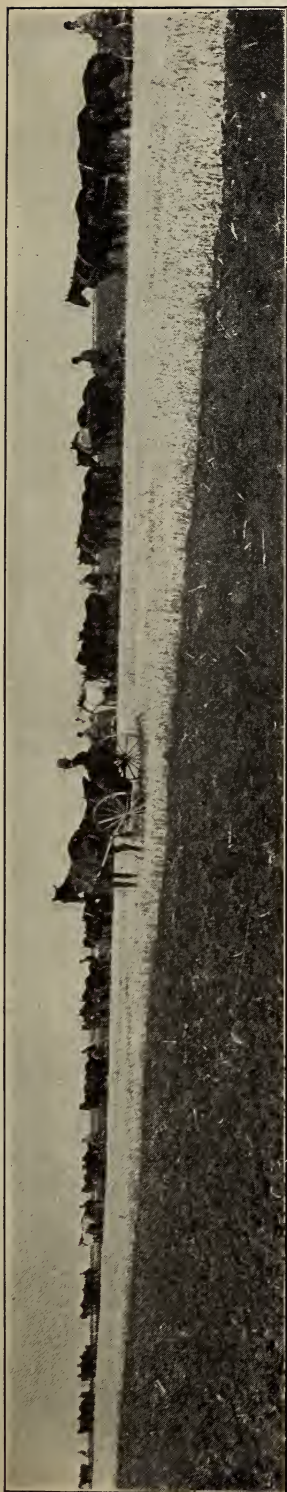
It was at the conclusion of this earliest of Illinois' several money troubles, which lasted until about 1830, that the final Indian war broke out. In this war, which lasted from

July 15, 1830, to August 27, 1832, if one reads the story of Black Hawk, the sad hopelessness of the thing is more pitiable than the putting down of the rebellion is interesting. Keokuk, chief of the Sauk and Fox Indians, had ceded to the government the territory lying between the Mississippi and Rock rivers, but Black Hawk, a dissenting leader of those Indians of the tribe who still favored England, had recently returned to hunt upon it, and consequently clashes with settlers followed. War was declared, if a few hundred men scouring the northern country could be called war, and, in the course of four years of more



Statue of John A. Logan, in Chicago.





A typical scene on a large Illinois farm.

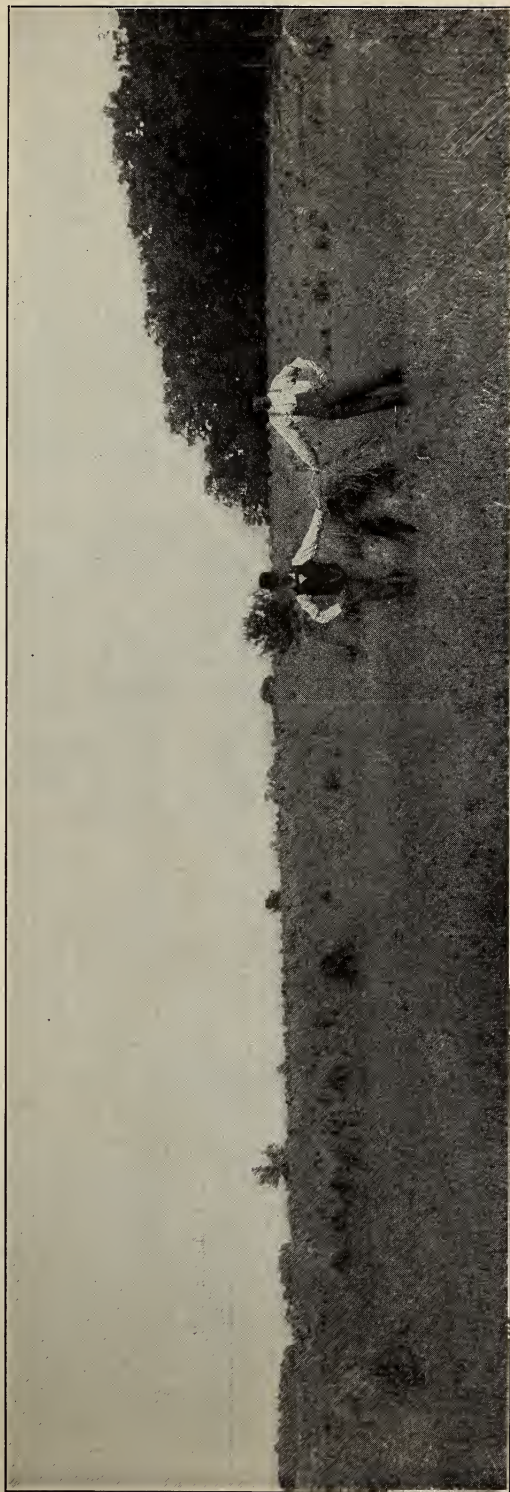


Photo by S. T. Kimball.

The site of Brownsville, former county seat of Jackson County, as it appears to-day. No trace of the old town remains.





The old "Fair," Chicago. The first department store in the world.

or less guerrilla fighting, the Indians were finally dislodged. This was the last of the red man so far as Illinois was concerned.

This war was still in its beginning, however, when the second and most wonderful of all the historic, financial, and social upheavals of the

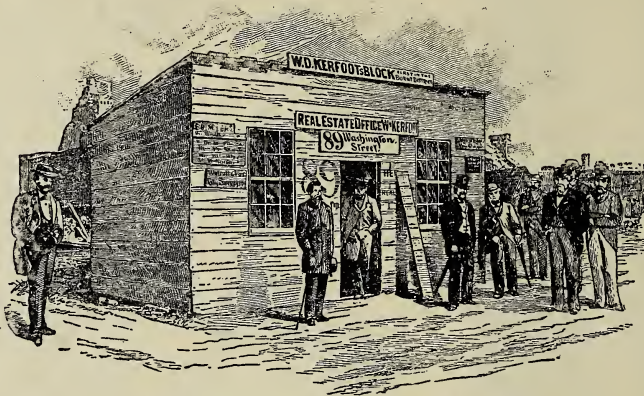
State occurred, an upheaval whose effects in the matter of taxation were felt for fully half a hundred years later. It might, in a general sense, be called the State and money trouble.

By the sudden evidence of growth in every direction at this time, particularly Chicago, where from a mere village in 1833 a city of several thousand had sprung up, and in 1836 was still growing, the people were most enthusiastically aroused. The story of sudden fortunes made there went all over the State, first exciting wonder

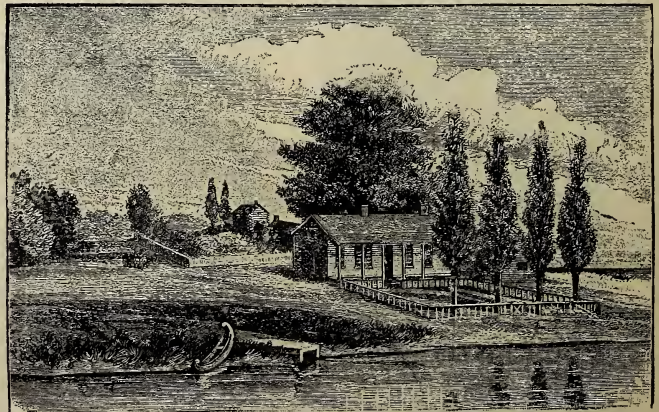
the form of an internal improvement campaign, which ended in large public meetings

and the appointment of delegates to an internal improvement convention, which met at the same time the legislature did (1836-37), and drew up a system "commensurate with the wants of

the people." This system included railroads, canals, public highways, and buildings galore. I am not quoting a dream



The first building erected after the great fire, Chicago.



Chicago's first post-office. The old Kinzie mansion.





Chicago after the great fire of 1871.

The ruins shown in the right-hand picture occupy the site of the present Marquette Building.

book when I say that the legislature of the same winter in question, representing not more than 300,000 people all told, passed a system or bill providing for railroads from Galena to the mouth of the Ohio; from Alton to Shawneetown; from Alton to Mt. Carmel; from Alton to the eastern boundary

of the State; from Quincy, on the Mississippi, through Springfield, to the Wabash; from Bloomington to Pekin, and from Peoria to Warsaw—altogether about 1,300 miles of road. It also provided that the Kaskaskia, Illinois, Rock, and Great and Little Wabash rivers should be dredged and deepened, and



The Field Museum, Chicago.



Jubilee College, Peoria. Founded about 1832 by Bishop Chase.

that \$200,000 should be distributed among all those counties through which no roads or improvements were to be made. There were other features in connection with it equally impossible and ridiculous, but these were the most important. Orators declaimed ingeniously that the State could well afford to borrow hundreds of millions of dollars for these things, and people applauded. Yet every time a tax question came up there was strenuous and equally unreasonable opposition. The result of all this was simply a large public debt. One road was built from the Mississippi to Springfield, but it cost a million, and was not worth one hundred thousand when finished. Others were started. A deal was made with the



Hull House, Chicago,— a philanthropic educational institute established to better the social condition in one of the poorest portions of Chicago. It is the most influential institution of its kind in the world.

Illinois Central, then a mere corporation on paper, by which the State gave it every other quarter section of land along its route in return for 7 per cent. of all its future annual profits. More work on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, which had been begun on July 4, 1836, and was now lagging, was done, and when the State had 478,000 population, it had an indebtedness of \$14,237,348. That led to a scheme of repudiation, and then the whole people learned by some very bitter taxation experiences what it means to be honest.

Along with all this the capital was removed from Vandalia to Springfield, in 1837. That cost \$600,000. It was done to get the votes of nine members from the Springfield region for that wonderful improvement idea. When it was all over, the thing was roundly abused by the



The Sauganash. The first Chicago hotel. Built previous to the Sauk War.



people, but then it was too late. The new burden had been saddled.

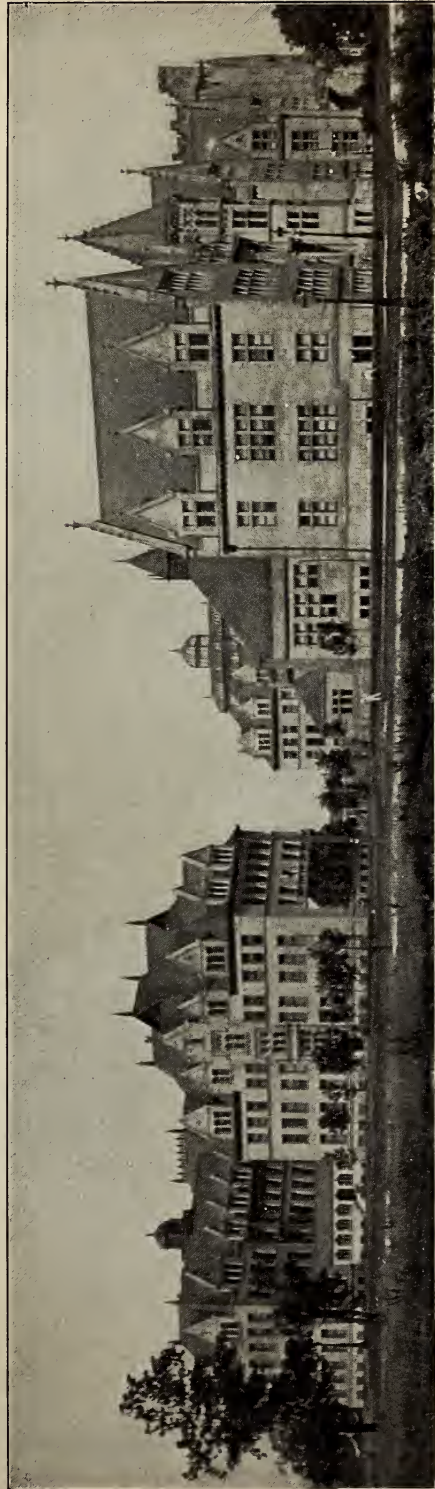
Right in the midst of this improvement folly occurred one of the most magnificent things in the State's history, and one of its gravest errors. Elijah M. Lovejoy died for his faith that the negro should be free. It was all because of that unthinking adoption of the Virginia laws. Although all of those who wanted to call a convention and revise the constitution so as to permit slavery were defeated in 1824, the thing was never thoroughly settled at that. Thousands believed the State was injuring itself by this anti-slavery idea. If they could not have slavery openly voted for, at least they didn't want it talked about. When Lovejoy came with his miserable little printing-press from St. Louis to Alton, and there set up the "Alton Observer"; when he began to attack slavery and say that it was wrong, they threw his type and press into the river, and told him to begone. That, however, the man's divine faith in his cause would not allow. In the old Lower Alton Presbyterian Church, surrounded by men with rifles, and addressing those who were madly divided for or against the one vast problem of the hour, he declared his faith in his divine mission.

"I cannot leave Alton," he said; "I have no intention of leaving. A voice urges me to a higher duty. I may be mobbed, the people may do what they choose to me, but here I remain. And as I remain, so will I exercise my right as a free man to believe and to publish my belief."

That was at Alton.

When a new press finally came, and abolitionists gathered with rifles to protect it, the mob allowed it to be safely landed, but not much more. In the house where it was placed, Lovejoy and the others who guarded it were attacked, and the patriot shot down. Then the press was thrown into the river again, and the idea that its miserable metal stood for made as powerful as a giant in the land. So freedom of the press was suppressed in Illinois.

In 1840, three years later, came the Mormons. They were already a powerful sect, odious in Missouri and Ohio, but welcomed here for what was thought to be their suffer-



Chicago University, south side.

ings. By juggling with both parties and appealing to that spirit of petty intrigue and self-interest in political aspirants so common throughout the country, they managed to get a corporation privilege which is one

Indeed, an autocratic cancer had been engrafted upon the State by the desire of petty politicians for office and the wish to conciliate the Mormon vote.

A man cannot worship God and mammon,



Governor Yates.

of the most astonishing documents in all American law annals. The rights vested in Joseph Smith and his council at Nauvoo were those of a Tsar. He could almost hang offenders of his own faith, and those who came to arrest him lost jurisdiction the moment they entered upon his territory.

however, and neither can a religious organization of this sort be all in all to two political parties. Sides had to be taken at one time or another, and finally the Democrats became offended, and then there was set up the cry that the Mormons were doing everything that was unconstitutional and danger-





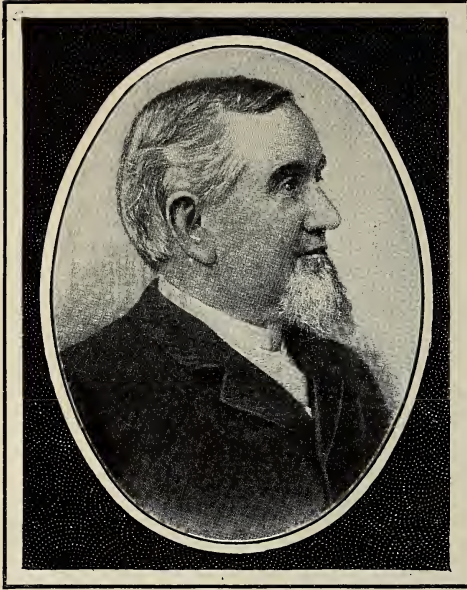
United States Senator William E. Mason.

United States Senator Shelby M. Cullom.

ous, and that if they were not curbed evil would follow. This aroused the attention of the people to the matter, the fiercest of political battles was waged for a period of



The Capitol, Springfield.



George M. Pullman, founder of the Pullman car system.

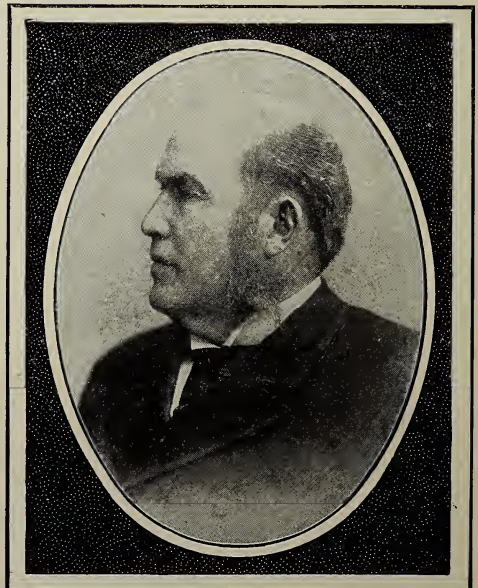
six years, and finally the remarkable expulsion came, thousands of Mormons packing bag and baggage and making off for Salt Lake. The growing State of Illinois was too much for them. Its political corpus was becoming too large and too healthy for them to handle.

Through all of this Lincoln and Douglas were slowly emerging into local and national significance. The slavery agitation, lulled into temporary rest by the national compromise of 1850, broke out afresh with the passage in 1854 of the Kansas and Nebraska bill. Here, as elsewhere, the bill nearly marked a revolution. Douglas in the United States Senate felt grave fears for his leadership in the State. The northern half of the State, now grown more influential, wanted no compromise with slavery. Parties went to pieces. Where formerly local interests had been strong, now the attitude of Illinois in the nation was the most important thing to its people.

As a result of these disturbances the Democrats, in 1854, found themselves for the first time since 1841 unable to control the General Assembly of the State on joint ballot. There were Democrats who stood for the Kansas-Nebraska bill, and Democrats who

repudiated its doctrine. Opposed or indifferent to them were Whigs, Free-soilers, Know-nothings, and Abolitionists. Out of this strange medley Lyman Trumbull was elected to the United States Senate. Thus was won the fruits of the first anti-slavery battle in Illinois. It was one of the first in the nation, and out of it the Republican party was born. Such is the most significant portion of Illinois' political history, its ideal history.

Following this came the natural but famous convention of 1856, called at the city of Bloomington. Never before had there, nor has there since, been assembled in Illinois the like of this convention. Palmer and Wentworth, Yates and Lovejoy, Oglesby and Browning and Lincoln were its controlling spirits. Men who had been political antagonists for years sat side by side in a common cause. They spoke from the same platform. Palmer from the standpoint of a Democrat, Browning from the view of a Whig, Lovejoy from the sublimer heights of an Abolitionist. And then Lincoln came, inspired, as his friends described him, delivering the unrecorded speech which left his party leadership in Illinois unquestioned. After that the convention adjourned, and



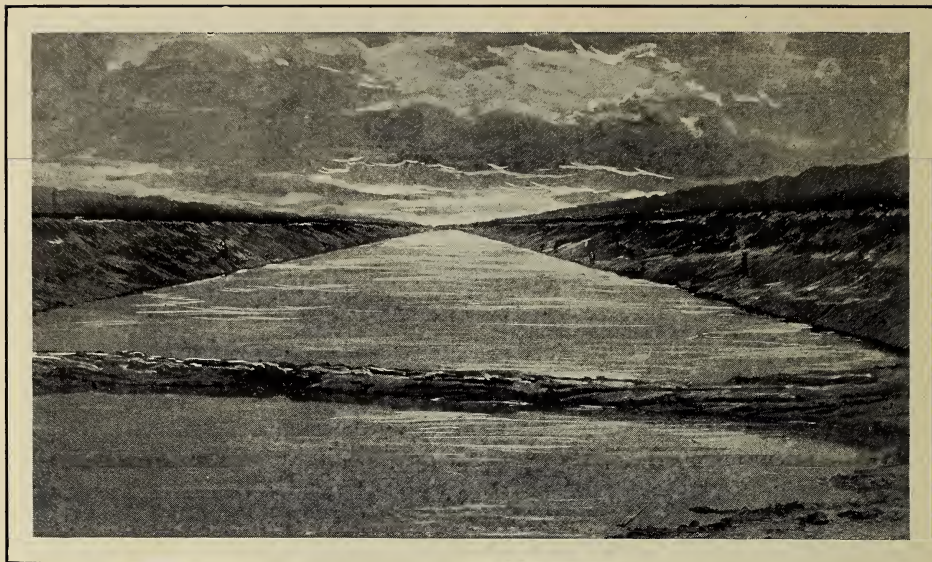
Philip D. Armour, founder of the beef-packing industry of Chicago.





View of the Chicago stockyards.





The drainage canal connecting the Chicago River with the Mississippi. Completed section near Lockport.

there was heralded to the world the birth of the Republican party in Illinois.

Since that time the political and social history of the State has been pleasant enough. Its ways have been the ways of peace. National history records how 135,000 soldiers

were given by it to defend the Union in the Civil War, how Grant was drawn from his store at Galena, and the mighty Lincoln sent from his home at Springfield. These are things which are of the history of the United States, and known to every reader in the land.



Photo by Scharp Bros.

View of the World's Fair buildings, 1893.



On its commercial side, however, it has been since those days that Illinois has accomplished the things its poor little legislature of almost fifty years before wrecked itself in trying to accomplish. The seven railroads—they were all present by 1855. One of the old merchant magazines of great fame in that year (Hunt's) published a "statistical view of Illinois," which as-tounded the rest of the growing country. Chicago had a population of 80,000; the State no less than 851,000. It was eighth in size, ninth in the matter of representation in Congress, tenth in the matter of improved acreage. Nearly every county had from three to thirty thousand population. Coal had been discovered; lead in the north-western part of the State. The richness of the smooth, unbroken prairie was dotted with hundreds of excellent villages and towns. Already the world was aware that Chicago was destined to be a great city. The wonderful fertility of the soil had made the one-time fear of bankruptcy and the shameless thought of repudiation of the great State debt seem like black shadows. Everything was onward and upward. Then began the era of the later big things.

Marshall Field came in 1856 as a clerk to Cooley, Farwell & Co. George M. Pullman came in 1859. He was not a car magnate then, but only a house-raiser and sewer-building contractor. The first car shop controlled by Pullman was opened in 1863. Philip D. Armour did not arrive, in the sense of a resident, until 1875. The stock yards that were to revolutionize the packing of beef were established there at his direction in 1868.

As a railroad centre and market for cattle and grain, Chicago soon came to be unrivalled in the West. In 1871, however, came that greatest calamity ever suffered by the State, the burning of Chicago, which for dramatic significance is scarcely surpassed

by anything in modern times. The city had grown by unparalleled leaps and bounds, until it then had over three hundred thousand inhabitants. There were miles upon miles of wind-swept prairie dotted closely with newly erected homes and manufactories. Hundreds of millions of dollars had been invested in commercial affairs, and the whole country was wide awake to its progress when this thing happened. Suddenly, on the morning of October 8, 1871, a high wind prevailing, the whole city was aroused by an immense



Scene on the Chicago River. The only elevator bridge in the world.

conflagration, which had begun, it is said, in a cow-shed on the north side, and was carried irresistibly onward by the power of the wind and the flimsy character of the majority of the structures. Engines were telegraphed for by the mayor to all neighboring cities, even as far as Detroit, a demand which was very generously responded to; but before assistance could arrive the whole downtown or commercial portion had been very nearly consumed.

To save what little there was of value re-

maining, dynamite and giant powder were resorted to, and block after block of solid commercial houses in the path of the fire were deliberately blown up. City officials and those who had organized to direct the rescue work were finally driven from the City Hall, and all the prisoners of the community set at large in order that they might save their lives. When the wind died down on the 9th, and the flames were got under control, it was found that over 18,000 commercial buildings and 100,000 dwellings had been destroyed, and that 92,000 people were homeless. Property to the value of \$187,927,000 had been consumed, and 250 lives lost. The whole of the burned area was considerably over 2,000 acres, in which nothing but tottering walls and charred skeletons of framework were to be seen.

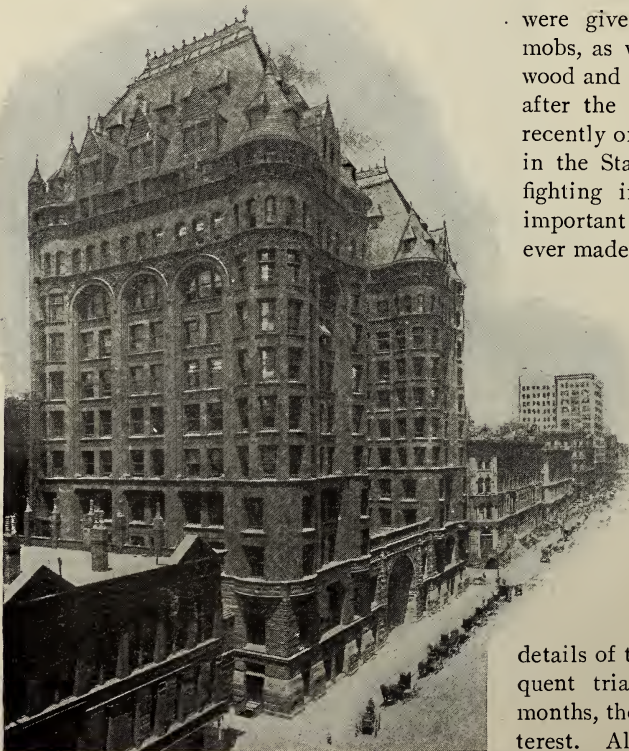
Congress, however, and the nation came to the rescue, and Chicago recovered. Within a period of a few months hundreds and thousands of better and more imposing

structures were erected, and the city began its present career of growth and wealth accumulation which has never been interrupted. In 1873 the first of the modern department stores was organized, and in 1877 the first great railroad strike broke out. This involved complete business prostration for Illinois. Cars loaded with grain, flour, and live stock were side-tracked, and not a wheel was allowed to turn. Railway trains, machine shops, yards, and factories at Chicago, Peoria, Galesburg, Decatur, East St. Louis, and some minor points were given into the hands of furious mobs, as were also the mines at Braidwood and La Salle. Order was only had after the State militia, a body then only recently organized with any effectiveness in the State, was called out, and severe fighting indulged in. It was the first important use of this form of soldiery ever made in Illinois.



Frances Willard.

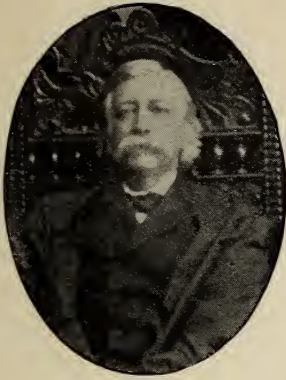
National leader of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.



Woman's Christian Temperance Union building, Chicago.

Following this came another period of prosperity which has endured with but slight interruption until the present day. Anarchy raised its head in Chicago, a riot resulting from free and long agitation, in which a number of policemen were killed and many persons wounded. This was on May 4, 1886. Great excitement was caused by the details of the outbreak, and in the subsequent trial, which lasted a number of months, the entire nation took a vast interest. All known newspaper records of circulation were broken in Chicago on the





Melville W. Fuller.

Chief-Justice of the United States  
Supreme Court.

day the convicted men were executed, which was November 11, 1887. Spies, Fischer, Engel, and Parsons were their names.

Of a more pleasing national interest was the agitation, in 1889 and 1890, of the

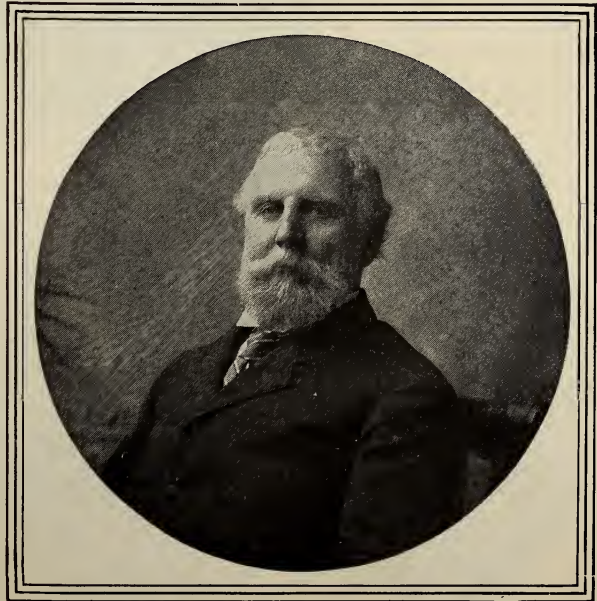
need of a great drainage canal from Lake Michigan to the Illinois River, which resulted in 1892 in ground being broken upon a work which has since resulted in the expenditure of \$35,000,000, raised in Chicago by taxation, and the reversing of the current in the Chicago River, in a sense the most remarkable stream to be found anywhere in the United States; than which there never was another more useful commercially or more filthy physically.

The revivifying and endowing of the Chicago University, in 1889, under the leadership of Dr. William R. Harper, was another event the interest of which has not yet lost its hold upon the public mind. This aged sectarian college, all but defunct both spiritually and financially, was in the space of a single year thrown into national significance by the efforts of Dr. Harper, who, strong in the confidence of John D. Rockefeller, the multi-millionaire philanthropist, managed to secure endowments for it aggregating several million. The rapidity with which a plan was elaborated, the magnificence and enthusiasm with which its details were worked out, and the material evidence which came rapidly in 1892 in the form of a

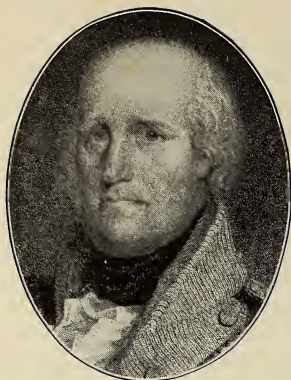
splendid array of buildings, all served to form a chapter of educational adventure unparalleled in the history of the world. Seventeen millions has the Chicago University thus far received in the matter of bequests.

And, lastly, out of Illinois arose the wonder of the World's Fair, that beautiful collection of palaces which ranged along Lake Michigan, under a shining sky, not yet forgotten. It was Illinois, with largely the impetus springing from Chicago, which conceived and executed that. Men may regret now that the wonder of it was not retained, but the smile of tolerance and incredulity has disappeared. In the architectural details which are yet to make this land a land of beauty, the influence of this beautiful White City will not be unapparent. It was one of the royal conceptions with which art has struggled and wrought and triumphed.

It is in the realm of finance and trade, however, that Illinois has achieved most. Through Chicago her record of great deeds in these realms has been made largely what it is. Men such as Levi Z. Leiter, B. H. Hutchinson, George Swift, Nelson Morris, and Philip Armour have sought for, and



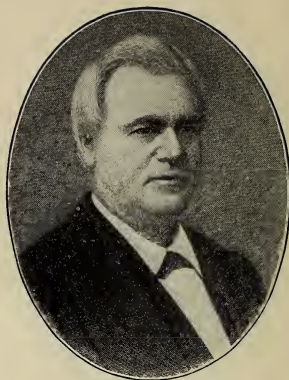
Lyman J. Gage, Secretary of the Treasury.



**George Rogers Clark.**  
Famous for his skill in the early  
Indian wars.



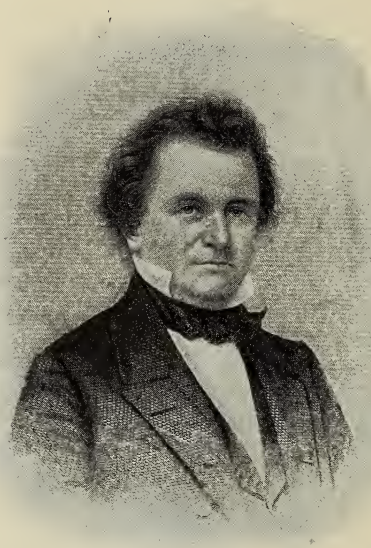
**Lyman Trumbull.**  
Leader of the anti-slavery party.



**R. J. Oglesby.**  
Governor of Illinois, 1864 and 1872.

at times in the past have controlled, the wheat, the corn, and the produce of the world. How these gigantic operations are engineered forms a story scarcely conceivable by the lay mind, but no doubt the purse of the average man feels quickly their influence.

Illinois is essentially a State of new ideas and great enterprises. Among them should be mentioned the wonder of the dressed

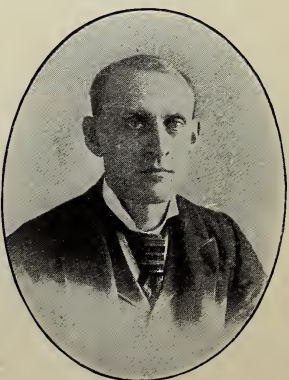


**Stephen A. Douglas.**  
Jurist and famous Democratic politician.

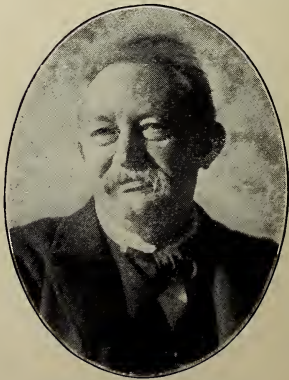
beef and refrigerator business; the marvel of commercial organization reaching out to every hamlet in the land in the form of the Pullman sleeping-car; the generation and evolution of the idea that it is cheaper to build high than to build wide, and so on. In Chicago—most remarkable of cities—is to be seen the street where cables were first introduced into America, and the only elevator



*Copyright, 1890, by Rockwood.*  
**Robert G. Ingersoll.**  
Lawyer, lecturer, and politician.



**Eugene Field.**  
From 1885 to his death the leading  
literary figure of the State.



**Theodore Thomas.**  
Leader of the Chicago orchestra, which  
has an endowment of \$50,000 a year.



bridge ever erected, put up over its narrow river as an experiment.

But Illinois is young yet. Its ambitions and achievements are those of a boy whose magnificent manhood is yet to come. Great as have been the commercial and social problems encountered and struggled with, the

end is not yet. Its greatest city has a third of a century to run before it can celebrate its one hundred years of progress. The State is still a score of years away from centennial, and in that time some of the newer dreams which are now so enthusiastically entertained may yet be fulfilled.

## A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF ILLINOIS HISTORY.

- 1634 Lake Michigan discovered by Jean Nicolet, July 4th.
- 1673 Marquette discovered Mississippi, June 17th.
- 1673 Kaskaskia or La Vantum Indian village of seven or eight thousand inhabitants discovered, September.
- 1673 Illinois and Michigan Canal suggested by Louis Joliet.
- 1673 Marquette visited present site of Chicago, September.
- 1675 Death of Marquette at mouth of Marquette River, Michigan, May 18th.
- 1680 La Salle first visits Illinois, January.
- 1680 Builds the Fort of the Broken Heart, the first thing done on the soil of Illinois with a view to permanent occupation, January 1st to 15th.
- 1680 Return of his band on foot, Peoria to Montreal, began March 1st.
- 1680 La Salle's second visit to Illinois, November.
- 1682 La Salle's third visit and discovery of the mouth of the Mississippi, April 7th.
- 1682 Mississippi Valley taken possession of for France by La Salle, April 9th.
- 1682 Tonti made Governor of Illinois by France, December.
- 1682 Fort called Fort St. Louis, built on Starved Rock, near Utica, December.
- 1687 La Salle murdered in Texas, March 19th.
- 1690 Proprietorship of Fort St. Louis granted Tonti for fur-trading purposes.
- 1700 Cahokia founded.
- 1732 Fort St. Louis discontinued.
- 1718 Pierre, Duqué de Boisbriant appointed first commandant of Illinois by the French.
- 1722 First church and first stone residence erected at Kaskaskia.
- 1725 Chief Chicagou sent to France by French settlers of Illinois.
- 1754 French and Indian war begun.
- 1760 Northwestern Territory (including Illinois) ceded to England by France, September 8th.
- 1765 English take formal possession of Illinois, October 10th.
- 1768 First English court established at Fort Charles, December 9th.
- 1777 Clark's conquest of Illinois begins Revolutionary War.
- 1778 Kaskaskia taken by Americans (Revolutionary War), July 4th.
- 1781 First permanent Anglo-American settlement.
- 1783 Illinois formally ceded to United States by England, September 3d.
- 1790 First settled portion of Illinois organized into a county of Ohio Territory, July.
- 1800 Illinois becomes a part of Indiana Territory, May 7th.
- 1803-04 Fort Dearborn built at Chicago.
- 1805 First legislators sent to represent Illinois in Indiana legislature at Vincennes, July.
- 1808 Attention of Congress called to idea of Illinois and Michigan Canal by Albert Gallatin, April 4th.
- 1809 Illinois set off as a separate Territory, February 3d.
- 1811 The great earthquake severely felt in southern Illinois.
- 1812 Fort Dearborn burned, garrison massacred, August 9th.
- 1812 Peoria burnt by Americans.
- 1816 Tract of land along proposed route of Illinois and Michigan Canal, ceded to United States Commissioners.
- 1817 American Fur Company establishes the pioneer business house of Chicago.
- 1818 Illinois admitted to Statehood, December 3d.
- 1818 State Constitution adopted at Kaskaskia, August 26th.
- 1820 State Capital removed from Kaskaskia to Vandalia, February.
- 1820 First Illinois State Bank created, December.
- 1822 Act authorizing the construction of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, passed by Congress, March 30th.
- 1822 Slavery defeated at the ballot, August.
- 1825 Act incorporating the "Illinois and Michigan Canal Association" with a capital of \$1,000,000, passed by Illinois legislature, January 17th.
- 1831 Construction of a railroad in the State first proposed February 15th.
- 1831 Last Indian war broke out, June 24th.
- 1832 Black Hawk finally defeated and captured, August 7th.
- 1833 Chicago incorporated as a city.
- 1834 McKendree College founded.
- 1836 Actual work of construction on Illinois and Michigan Canal begun July 4th.
- 1837 Knox College founded.
- 1836-37 First railroad built from Naples to Bluffs in Scott County.
- 1837 Lovejoy riots and his death.
- 1836-37 Giant improvements voted.
- 1837 State Capital removed to Springfield.
- 1838 Monticello Female Seminary, first movement for higher education of women in State, founded at Godfrey.
- 1840 Mormons settled in Nauvoo.
- 1840-46 Mormon riots.
- 1846 Mormons evacuate Nauvoo.
- 1846 First regiment of Illinois volunteers enrolled for service in Mexican War, May.
- 1848 First ten miles of Galena and Chicago Union Railway completed.
- 1848 Illinois and Michigan Canal completed, and first boat, the "General Fry," passed from Lockport to Chicago, April 10th.
- 1856 Republican party born in Illinois.
- 1858-59 Lincoln-Douglas debate.
- 1860 Lincoln nominated for the Presidency, Chicago, May 16th.
- 1868 Illinois University founded March 11.
- 1871 Chicago fire, October 8-9th.
- 1872 Union stock yards incorporated.
- 1873 First Department Store in the world erected, Chicago.
- 1877 First railroad riots.

- 1880 Pullman founded.  
 1885 First "sky-scraper" in the world erected, Chicago.  
 1886 Haymarket riot, May 4.  
 1887 Anarchists executed, Nov. 11th.  
 1889 Chicago University founded, May.  
 1891 Masonic Temple, largest office building, erected.  
 1892 Chicago University inaugurated, October.  
 1892 Chicago drainage canal begun.  
 1893 World's Fair inaugurated, Chicago.  
 1894 National railroad strike and riots contested.  
 1899 Drainage canal opened and Chicago River reversed.  
 1890-1900 Chicago population growth (100,000 a year).

## SOME PROMINENT MEN AND WOMEN IDENTIFIED WITH ILLINOIS.

- Jacques Marquette,  
 Robert De La Salle, } earliest explorers.  
 Louis Joliet,  
 Henry de Tonti,  
 George Rogers Clark, Major-General U.S.A., famous for his skill in the Indian wars.  
 Ninian Edwards, first Governor Illinois Territory, Governor of Illinois, and one of the first Senators in Congress.  
 Jesse B. Thomas, one of the first Senators in Congress.  
 Shadrach Bond, first Governor of Illinois.  
 Abraham Lincoln, sixteenth President of the United States.  
 Ulysses S. Grant, eighteenth President of the United States.  
 John M. Palmer, Major-General U.S.V., Republican Governor of Illinois, and United States Senator.  
 Richard J. Oglesby, Major-General U.S.V., Governor of Illinois, and United States Senator.  
 Edward Coles, politician, and Governor of Illinois.  
 Robert G. Ingersoll, lawyer, lecturer, and politician, Colonel U.S.V., and Attorney-General for Illinois.  
 Shelby M. Cullom, Governor of Illinois and United States Senator.  
 Stephen A. Douglas, Judge Supreme Court of Illinois and United States Senator.  
 John A. Logan, Major-General U.S.V. and United States Senator.  
 Richard Yates, Governor of Illinois and United States Senator.  
 David Swing, Presbyterian clergyman, tried in Chicago for heresy in 1874, and acquitted.  
 Henry Ives Cobb, architect.  
 Jonathan Blanchard, educator.  
 Daniel K. Pearsons, philanthropist.  
 Melville W. Fuller, Chief-Justice of the United States Supreme Court.  
 W. R. Harper, Biblical critic, president Chicago University.  
 Robert T. Lincoln, Secretary of War and Minister to England.  
 Jos. Medill, editor and publisher of the "Chicago Tribune."  
 Lyman J. Gage, banker, and Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.  
 "Joe" Smith, founder of Mormonism.  
 Jos. E. Gary, Judge of the Superior Court.  
 Walter L. Newberry, banker and philanthropist, founder of the Newberry Library.  
 John Dean Caton, pioneer lawyer.  
 Henry Wade Rogers, educator.  
 Cyrus H. McCormick, inventor of the reaping machine.  
 Wilbur F. Story, journalist, founder "Chicago Times."  
 John A. Rawlins, Brigadier-General U.S.V., lawyer, and Secretary of War.  
 Nathaniel Pope, territorial delegate to Congress.  
 John Reynolds, Governor of Illinois.  
 Elijah M. Lovejoy, clergyman, and opponent of slavery.  
 Eugene Field, poet.  
 Mrs. Potter Palmer, president Ladies' Auxiliary World's Columbian Exposition and delegate to the Paris Exposition.  
 George M. Pullman, inventor of the sleeping car.  
 Frances E. Willard, temperance reformer and author.  
 Philip D. Armour, stock-yard magnate and philanthropist.  
 Marshall Field, merchant.  
 Lorado Taft, sculptor.  
 John P. Altgeld, Governor of Illinois.  
 Chas. T. Yerkes, street car magnate.  
 Col. George R. Davis, director-general World's Columbian Exposition.  
 Carter H. Harrison, five times Mayor of Chicago.  
 Patrick A. Feehan, Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church.  
 James H. Eckels, banker, and ex-Comptroller of the Currency.  
 Theodore Thomas, the father of classical music in America.  
 Jas. C. Fargo, president Wells-Fargo Express Company.  
 Martin Russell, editor, and Collector of the Port at Chicago.  
 Opie Reed, author.  
 William Deering, inventor.  
 F. P. Dunne, journalist and humorist.  
 Lyman Trumbull, United States Senator.  
 H. W. Thomas, founder of the People's Church.  
 George Ade, humorist.  
 Henry W. Blodgett, judge.  
 Joseph G. Cannon, Congressman, leader of Illinois delegation.  
 Mary H. Catherwood, author.  
 Charles B. Farwell, United States Senator and merchant.  
 William R. Morrison, eight times Congressman from southern district.  
 William F. Poole, librarian, bibliographer, and historical writer.  
 William M. Springer, Congressman.  
 Elihu Benj. Washburne, Secretary of State and United States Minister to France.  
 John Wentworth, pioneer, historian, and party leader.  
 Sam'l Fallows, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church.  
 Stanley Waterloo, journalist and author.  
 Nicholas Senn, celebrated surgeon.  
 William J. Bryan, statesman and editor.  
 Thos. Ford, Governor of Illinois and historian.  
 Levi Z. Leiter, merchant and capitalist.  
 Wm. A. Pinkerton, detective, head of the Secret Service.  
 Reginald de Koven, operatic composer, author of "Robin Hood," etc.  
 Stephen A. Hurlbut, Major-General U.S.V., lawyer, and statesman.  
 David Hunter, Major-General U.S.A.  
 D. H. Burnham, supervising architect of World's Columbian Exposition.